DEPUTY MAYOR TONI ATKINS
Science and Technology Commission
MEETING MINUTES

The San Diego Science and Technology Commission (SDS&TC) held a meeting on December 7, 2005 hosted by Community and Economic Development located at 600B Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

I.   CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**:** Dr. Martha Dennis, SDS&TC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M. <u>Members present:</u> Dr. Hui Cai, Daniel Chang, Dr. Martha Dennis, Charles Holland, Kristopher Lichter, Susan Myrland, Dr. Gail Naughton, Tyler Orion, and Julie Meier Wright. <u>Members absent:</u> Craig Andrews, Luis Avila, Jon Cohen, Scott Corlett, Dr. Tom Dillon, Marc Nemer, Craig Roberts, Carrie Stone, and Maurice Wilson . Community & Economic Development Department staff members: Toni Dillon, Tina Hines, and Jeff Kawar. Office of the CIO, Information Technology Division staff members: Rey Arellano, Ellen Schauer, and Howard Stapleton. Office of the City Attorney staff member: Paul Edmondson. Members of the public present: Lindsay Sullivan, Community Technology Coalition and Jeff Hancock, San Diego Futures Foundation.

II.   PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF 2005 MINUTES FOR: October 19, 2005
      (MOTION/Orion/Myrland/UNANIMOUS)

IV.   APPROVAL OF 2006 MEETING CALENDAR: Commission members approved a change of dates for the February, 2006 Regularly Scheduled Science and Technology Meeting from the 15th to 8th of this month (MOTION/Myrland/Litcher/UNANIMOUS).

V.   MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND WIRELESS ACCESS

      A. <u>Legal challenges Philadelphia and San Francisco</u>: Paul Edmondson with the, Office of the City Attorney, stated that he found in preparing his presentation, it was necessary to review other municipalities besides Philadelphia and San Francisco.

      He began by citing some general statistics: 1) the Yankee Group research data that noted "approximately three hundred cities of various size) have WiFi deployment planned, under way or already in use"; 2) web searches indicated that twenty-nine cities have claimed to deploy wireless technology; 3) Gartner, Inc research states that sixty thousand hotels and airports now offer WiFi hot spots.

      He continued by summarizing four municipal WiFi/Internet Access efforts. These efforts included: 1) Tempe, Arizona's, WZTEMPE, which claims to be the first and only provider of metro-scale, outdoor WiFi service which will have 95% coverage, to be developed in 5 phases; 2) Denver, Colorado that has released an RFP seeking WiFi deployment for a 52 square mile area; 3) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania non-profit corporation which was created to oversee deployment of 135 square miles of deployment;

4) San Francisco, California's RFP for a 49 square mile deployment which has currently received 3,000 public comments.

Edmondson stated that the City of San Diego's current efforts to provide internet access have focused on: 1) Public Libraries via computer terminals and WiFi access from individual owners enabled equipment; 2) Community Centers with free Internet access via computer terminals; 3) City Council Chambers with free Internet access via WIFi from individual owners enabled equipment.

Edmondson summarized WiFi industry providers' efforts targeting respective states and the federal government with proposed legislation to block the provision of wireless services by municipalities. He stated that these efforts are based on the premise that by providing free WiFi access local government is interfering in free market competition. Other ideas presented included reference to the state legislation enacted by Colorado and Pennsylvania, to preclude municipalities from offering this type of information services to citizens.

Edmondson mentioned that the City of Philadelphia entered into an agreement with Verizon Wireless to deploy wireless services to its citizens. This agreement with Verizon is administered for Philadelphia by a nonprofit organization called Philadelphia Wireless. The nonprofit structure was a result of the above mentioned legislation. Edmondson stated that San Francisco has an agreement with MetroFi for three hot spot locations to provide free wireless access. In addition, MetroFi is not allowed to sell subscriptions.

Edmondson noted that a few wireless companies have made proposals to the City of San Diego. Many of the proposals were focused on providing services to business centers like Downtown and La Jolla for market/profit purposes as opposed providing access to the underserved communities in San Diego. He noted that these proposals did not comply with City's business model requirements.

Edmonson presented a non-exclusive list of the City's concerns related to providing internet services to citizens as follows: 1) all services must conform to the City's web site linking policy (links must be to sites with non-commercial requirements); 2) accuracy of information; 3) privacy; 4) service reliability and technical limitations; 5) WiFi security; 6) virus, spyware and adware.

B. E-Government and City Website Policy: Presented by Howard Stapleton and Ellen Shauer, Office of the CIO.

Stapleton introduced to the Commission the E-Government Strategic Plan (Plan) vision which will detail the design and usage of state of the art technology. This Plan will enable the City to accomplish the following goals: 1) to improve the quality and availability of service delivery and the cost effectiveness of City Services; 2) to promote the economic life of the community by making San Diego attractive to business through efficient government; 3) to establish the technical infrastructure to provide electronic service delivery channels to citizens and facilitate economic growth; 4) to improve internal City operations and management's ability to make informed decisions; 5) to make City government decision making accessible to all stake holders within the community.

Stapleton stated that several E-government services available to citizens are as follows: 1) Neighborhood ewatch; 2) Water Bill Payment and Presentment (ipay); 3) Water Conservation Certificate Verification; 4) Business Development and Incentive Zone Mapping System; 5) SD Gateway.

Ellen Schauer stated that the City has the following website policies and procedures including: 1) Web Development Guide, 2) Design Specifications; 3) Usability and Technical Standards; 4) Linking Policy; 5) Sponsorship Guidelines; 6) Multimedia Policy and Procedures. The purpose of these website policies are to attain the following objectives: 1) providing a cohesive look and feel of the City's website; 2) reflecting the corporate image of the City; 3) providing for device independence; 4) ensuring the highest quality for optimal viewing; 5) requiring compliance with all laws including copyright, trademarks and intellectual property.

VI   COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAFF UPDATE: Time was yielded to Agenda Item VII.

VII.   SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

    A. DIWG Sub-committee: Jeff Hancock with San Diego Futures Foundation and Lindsay Sullivan with Community Technology Coalition made known to the Commission that they had volunteered to prepare DIWG's policy recommendations.

    During discussion, the Commission decided that a new sub-committee should be created to focus on public access for WiFi technology. Mr. Lichter moved to form this sub-committee (MOTION/Wright/Orion/UNANIMOUS). Commission members Mr. Lichter and Commission Chair, Dr. Dennis volunteered to join this new Sub-Committee. Mr. Lichter volunteered to lead this effort. Two members of the general public, Lindsay Sullivan, from the Community Technology Coalition and Jeff Hancock, from San Diego Futures Foundation also volunteered to join.

VIII.   UPCOMING MEETINGS: The next meeting will be February 8, 2006 from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M.

IX.   ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business of the Commission, this meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.